



NAME: TRAVIS EDWARD WATTS,
PHARMD., BCPS., CDE., CDM., NCPS.

JOB TITLE: OKLAHOMA AREA PHARMACY
OFFICER

AGENCY: INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE,
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

EDUCATION/DEGREES/CERTIFICATES/INSTITUTIONS:

CDR Watts completed his Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy in 1990 at Southwestern Oklahoma State University, School of Pharmacy. After 5 years of working in the Indian Health Services Commander Watts decided to pursue a Doctorate in clinical pharmacy at the University of Oklahoma in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. In 1995 he graduated with a Doctorate in Clinical Pharmacy. Upon completion of the Doctorate program he completed an A.S.H.P accredited Primary Care Specialty Residency at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Along the way CDR Watts has attained professional licensure in several different states, including Oklahoma, Texas, & Arizona. He practices with an array of certifications including: Board Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist, National Clinical Pharmacy Specialist in Dyslipidemia & Anticoagulation, Certified Diabetes Educator, National Institute for Pharmacist's Credentialing in Anticoagulation, & National Institute for Pharmacist's Credentialing in Dyslipidemia.

CURRENT JOB DESCRIPTION:

CDR Watts' current position as the Oklahoma Area Pharmacy Officer includes providing administrative and clinical support for pharmacists stationed at urban, tribal, or Indian Health Care facilities in the Oklahoma area. In addition CDR Watts serves on several local and national committees including serving on the Indian Health Service's National Credentialing Committee, National Pharmacy Council, and National Formulary Committee. These committees have provided national leadership within the Indian Health Service and have redefined the pharmacy billet structure, mission and goal statements, and provided review and recognition of the pharmacy program's elite clinical programs.

Agency

QUALIFYING SKILLS FOR CURRENT POSITION:

CDR Watts has developed his skills by continuing to further his education by acquiring advanced degrees and local and national certification in several different areas of focus. CDR Watts has served in several leadership positions prior to becoming the Oklahoma Area Pharmacy Officer. Previous positions have provided him with both administrative

and clinical skills to serve in his current position. He will be required to serve as a mentor to younger and older officers and CDR Watts has practiced as a pharmacy educator since becoming a commissioned officer.

REASONS FOR CHOOSING THE USPHS AS A CAREER:

CDR Watts chose a career in the USPHS based upon previous exposure through the Indian Health Service Scholarship program. As a scholarship recipient CDR Watts completed a summer COSTEP program and saw early in his pharmacy training how both rewarding and fulfilling a career as a USPHS officer could be. After working in the Indian Health Service for several years and then acquiring his Doctorate of Pharmacy degree and residency training, CDR Watts knew that the USPHS/IHS would be an exceptional career to practice as a clinical pharmacist.

PREVIOUS USPHS ASSIGNMENTS:

CDR Watts began his career in the IHS at Keames Canyon, AZ where he was stationed as a staff pharmacist for 2 years. Soon after, he changed directions and headed back to school for his Pharm.D. degree and a primary care residency at the University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy. After completing his residency, CDR Watts rejoined the IHS at the Claremore Comprehensive Indian Health Facility in Claremore, Oklahoma where he began the transformation of the pharmacist into a more clinical role. CDR Watts was awarded the Oklahoma Area IHS Junior Pharmacist of the Year, IHS Junior Pharmacist of the Year, USPHS Allen J. Brands Clinical Pharmacist of the Year and received a Commendation Medal for his innovative implementation of two large-scale pharmacist-managed disease state management clinics (anticoagulation and cardiovascular risk reduction) in the outpatient pharmacy department. Both clinics continue to provide clinical care to date; the Anticoagulation Clinic serves as an anticoagulation training center for health professionals nationwide.

CDR Watts was promoted to Chief of Pharmacy Operations to the W.W. Hastings Indian Hospital in Tahlequah, Oklahoma for the largest IHS hospital in the Oklahoma area. While at Tahlequah, in addition to supervising global pharmacy services, CDR Watts expanded his role as an instructor with the aforementioned college of Pharmacy while serving as a member of several national IHS committees including the National Pharmacy Council, National Core Formulary, Clinical Support Center, and the National Scholarship Program. CDR Watts' future may have been foreshadowed as he was asked by the previous Area Pharmacy Officer to serve as the Area Clinical Pharmacy Consultant.

Just prior to becoming the Oklahoma Area Officer CDR Watts accepted a position at Claremore Indian Hospital as the Area/Regional Clinical Specialty Consultant & Assistant Chief of Inpatient Operations. In this position CDR Watts coordinated area clinical activities relative to clinical specialties and advised the Director of the Pharmacy Programs, regarding policy development in the area of clinical pharmacy activities. In addition he was responsible for local and national formulary management processes. CDR Watts also served as the pharmacist responsible for inpatient pharmacy operations at Claremore Indian Hospital. In addition CDR Watts held faculty positions at two local Pharmacy schools, providing direct supervision for 4th year pharmacy students. CDR Watts provided a pharmacy teaching service and taught lectures at the University.

MOST REWARDING USPHS PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

CDR Watts' most rewarding USPHS professional experience would have to be the opportunity to work with the individuals he has been able to practice along side during his career. CDR Watts has enjoyed building the professional relationships while stationed at several duty sites. He explained how pharmacists in the USPHS practice at a high level of care and take pride in performing at that level. In addition CDR Watts has enjoyed teaching students and other officers. Teaching has been a strong passion of CDR Watts' career development.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS/ACTIVITIES:

- CCRF, American Society of Health Systems Pharmacists, American Association of Clinical Pharmacists, Commissioned Officers Association, American Association of Diabetes Educators, Oklahoma Society of Hospital Pharmacist

SPECIAL NOTES OF INTEREST (OPTIONAL)

- Awards:
 - USPHS Clinical Pharmacist of the year (2003)
 - USPHS Commendation Medal (2002)
 - USPHS Unit Commendation (2003,1998,1994)
 - USPHS Citation (1992)
 - Indian Health Service Junior Pharmacist of the Year Award (1999)
 - Oklahoma City Area Indian Health Service Junior Pharmacist of the Year Award (1998)

By: LT Ryan Schupbach